

Dr Fiona Arney
Inquirer for the Independent Inquiry into Foster & Kinship Care
(via email only: carer.inquiry@sa.gov.au)

2 August 2022

Dear Dr Arney,

Independent Inquiry into Foster & Kinship Care: report timeframe & communication

The purpose of this letter is to reference the extended timeframe for the final report and to request urgent communication of this extension, by the Inquiry, to the Carer community specifically those that provided submissions in good faith.

We are aware that the Independent Inquiry into Foster and Kinship Care officially ended on 8 June 2022, with your final report anticipated September 2022. This is stated on the government Inquiry website, the Department for Child Protection website and recently confirmed with us by the Minister for Child Protection.

Unfortunately this information differs considerably with the information provided via the Inquiry website earlier this year; information shared openly with the South Australian Carer community.

The initial timeframe information published on the government Inquiry [website](#) on 28 March 2022 stated that the inquiry will **provide a report to the Minister for Child Protection no later than 8 June 2022**. This information has since been removed from the website.

This new timeframe of September 2022 is contrary to what was initially published. Many Carers are not aware of this timeframe extension, despite the Inquiry website update. We are also aware that Carers and priority partners who participated in providing a submission, our organisation included, were not directly informed of this delayed timeframe.

As you know, many South Australian Carers participated constructively in the submission process for this Inquiry sharing heartfelt, personal and often traumatising stories for the Inquiry to consider. In the spirit of progressing and implementing better outcomes for children and young people in care, including their family based Foster and Kinship Carers, we ask this information is communicated promptly and transparently, ensuring all Carers are updated accordingly.

We ask the Inquiry urgently communicate to the Carer community the timeframe change, and why it is delayed for this length of time. As the peak body for Carers, we ask this report delay is communicated with priority to those that provided submissions to the Inquiry.

Yours sincerely,



Fiona Endacott

Chief Executive Officer

Connecting Foster & Kinship Carers SA

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